

Course 1: VA Essentials.

Questions and Answers

Week starting:

May 5: How Astrology Works, Archetypes and Energy Processes (Week 1)

David's class notes:

1st class: May 5, 2022

Almost every week you will make a 10-minute video (7 - 15 min) and email it to me or email me the link to the video.

Most common format for videos is mp4.

I recommend making a youtube account and upload your videos to youtube. (it's free).

You set the video to Unlisted and only people with a link to the video can find it.

If you want it to be public change it to the Public setting.

I started intensive work in astrology in Sept 1972.

The modern idea that the astrology chart is a road map, it tells you a direction in your life.

The ancient books tend to describe facts.

3 men with Sun in Aries and at least one other inner planet in Aries and a 3rd planet or more in Aries. (3 in a row). Ruler of Aries is Mars. Mars was strong.

A lot of clients with Leo strong. About 1/3 of them were extremely shy. Had none of the usual Leo qualities.

Leo: Leo makes the person self-conscious. An existential fact. The fact that Leo is concerned with is that we exist as individuals. That we have control of our bodies and minds and nobody else has direct control of us. We orchestrate our lives. Like selective perception that Leo makes you acutely aware of your individuality.

Astrology works at some "higher" or more fundamental level.

Some fundamental principles of VA are:

The astrological variables are forces that motivate and direct us from a higher dimensional space.

I am proposing that astrology works by forces, purposes, and meaning from higher dimensions. Astrology does not work directly as archetypes. Archetypes are not primary; they are secondary.

If you interpret the forces, your interpretation is always correct (to the accuracy of our current knowledge).

If you interpret as archetypes, you have to do a lot of guessing.

By late 70's I had a reputation as a wizard . . . the astrological interviews turned into consultations.

Does astrology tell us things about people that we can measure and replicate the findings?

In 1990's research on databases started to confirm what I saw in consultations.

In 2000's I went to UF and got a MA in Research and Evaluation Methods.

By the 2000's, especially by 2010 to 2015 a very large body of research had been conducted that suggests that astrology produces measurable effects.

Exciting result of the research is that improves consultations.

VA relies heavily on research and results from consultations. Both are important. They reinforce each other.

In 1990's Evidence-Based Medicine began and Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) is now emphasized in psychology, physical therapy, education, etc. as well. I recently made a series of videos on EBP but I am not giving them as homework.

The basic idea of an EBP is that you use the best evidence available. This is working well except for some problems such as pharmaceutical companies corrupting the Evidence-Based Medicine.

Why do we not use Mars rules Aries etc. in VA?

1. We have not confirmed it in formal research such as any of the database methods we use or a case study or comparative study. We have not yet found a book or lecture that shows that the ruling planets would improve our VA interpretation.

2. There is nothing in the VA Theoretical Framework that indicates that planets rule signs?

If somebody make a compelling presentation (article, book, video) showing how we improve VA with ruling planets of signs and several VA astrologers look at it and find it compelling (seems to work better with rulers than without them) then we start to incorporate rulers into VA.

BEST EVIDENCE. If it appears that they help, we use it. No solid "proof" is needed.

Every astrologer can use ideas that are part of VA and not part of VA. Ideas that are not part of VA may be even better; we just haven't confirmed it yet.

VA is data-driven and consensus-driven.

Levels of evidence: Lots of research designs. Each research design gives a level of confidence in the conclusions.

Process for expanding VA: Document, present, review.

Again, you do whatever you want to do, and just label things correctly.

Theoretical framework:

In VA we have a clear and specific theory for why:

- * tropical zodiac signs work (it is not some vague relationship to seasons).
- * houses work
- * aspects work
- * midpoints and isotraps work, Also arabic parts.

The reason why they work is consistent with modern science (physics, etc.) Has similarities to Superstring theory, quantum physics, etc.

How we develop ideas in VA:

1. Data driven research: 20,000+ charts with AA data, data collected by the Gauquelins, husband-wife and children data that I used in research that I described at the 2022 VA Conference. Scores on extraversion-introversion administered by a psychologist with birth data from a birth record.
2. Consultations results
3. Theoretical framework implies and suggests that certain things must work.

Questions from Students:

- *Why do only Pisano period 8, 9 and 10 create the zodiac? What about most of*

the other Pisano periods? Are the other numbers arbitrary, if so, that must make eight, nine, 10 and square numbers very special. Or do we not fully understand or realize the potential of the other numbers? Could they perhaps be representations of the sacred geometry of other solar systems in our galaxy?

I looked at pisano periods of all numbers up to 144. The rhythm (modulus) of a little more than half of them are 12 or a multiple of 12. The prevalence of the number 12 makes 12 sections of 30 degrees a strong structure in space. Also, some divisions are likely to be more important than others, such as pisano periods like 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, and 81, which are squares of numbers. This is one reason why the 27 nakshatras are particularly important even though the numbers like 27, 108 and 216 appear only a few times. Vedic astrology has gotten closer to this idea of multiple divisions of the sky, such as by 7, 9 and 27 rather than just 12. In some ancient Vedic texts there are many divisions of the sky mentioned and to this day there are many different divisions that are used (the divisional charts or vargas) in Vedic astrology. Details of this are provided in some detail in the video “Why There Are Nakshatras: Sacred Geometry” at <https://youtu.be/uZpjC4hdvUk>

- *Since the stars have shifted in the past thousand years, how does VA account for the new shift? In VA, do we believe in Ophiucus, the 13th zodiac? Why does VA rely on tropical instead of sidereal? Isn't Sidereal more accurate?*

There are two challenges to using the sidereal zodiac in VA: (1) There is not agreement about where the sidereal zodiac begins. The Lahiri ayanamsha was introduced in 1955. Before we can use the sidereal zodiac, we need to decide which one to use, (2) Vedic astrology relies heavily on the navamsha chart and the importance of the Ascendant (Lagna). The navamsha Lagna, which is very important and is often different with different ayanamshas. This one example of how the body of Vedic astrology literature consequently has little consistency. (3) Historically some Vedic astrologers used the tropical zodiac and the use of the tropical zodiac in Vedic astrology is increasing; this is just another example of the complexity of different possibilities, (4) Constellations are NOT star clusters and the current 88 constellations defined by astronomers and there are some differences in constellations, (5) The fixed stars are not fixed; they move and there is no clear way to define where the sidereal zodiac is 10,000 years ago, for example, based on any fixed star other than the Galactic Center. See, for example, the video at <https://youtu.be/1xWO1wgZAtQ> (6) The theoretical framework for VA is that Space is more fundamental than matter and signs are divisions in Space. If we use physical matter, like stars and constellations, it would be nice to have some reason for using

it rather than selecting one star and claiming it as a reference point. That star is like one bee in a swarm of bees and it seems arbitrary that is important. (7) Without theory to support a sidereal zodiac, we could have evidence but we don't have modern research evidence for the sidereal zodiac as do for the tropical zodiac. At some point in the future, perhaps we will. (8) I have come up with a sidereal zodiac with a reasonable basis for it but is 3 degrees different from the Lahiri ayanamsha so many Vedic astrologers are not interested in it, and it also is based on the idea that the sidereal zodiac is secondary to the tropical zodiac. A video about this is here: <https://youtu.be/eSLnbsp9IQ8> (9) Also, regarding Ophiucus: If we use Ophiucus, there are other constellations that should also be used, as explained in this video: <https://youtu.be/XTzAmw4rGKw>

It may be true that constellations and/or the sidereal zodiac is more important than the tropical zodiac. In VA we are mostly just interested in what we have the most evidence for, and evidence will change, and perhaps 100 years from now the sidereal zodiac will have greater evidence to support it than the tropical zodiac.

- *If Fibonacci numbers are being repeated on the zodiac, why do the patterns take form of a different house? Why is the energy or frequency different if it's the same repetitive pattern?*

Any Great Circle that intersects the ecliptic plane creates a zodiac. Thus, there are zodiacs starting at Tropical Zero-Aries, the MC, the Vertex, the Ascendant and the Moon's True North Node. They have the same 12 cycles. Aries and the 1st house are similar, Taurus and the 2nd house are similar, etc. Even though the cycles are the same, there are big differences between, for example, Aries and the 1st house, because tropical signs are a perspective from the horizon and are related to our "horizontal perspective" of our attitude to the people and places around us, and the Tropical Zodiac is an Earth-Sun relationship which relates more to us as biological living organisms and the way we develop and evolve as beings.

Note also that a sidereal zodiac based on constellations introduces another concept of divisions of space generated out of the placement of things, so simpler explanations are preferred when there is a choice and we don't have an intuitive way of understanding how the placement of things would generate the structures in space that we refer to as zodiacs and house systems.

** A dreamy or psychic experience of archetypes: Things kept switching back and forth between situations that were personal (either to me or others) and situations that were more global or collective. (The pain of romance vs the horrors of war, etc.)*

Yet one thing remained very clear... that we are all deeply connected first by the fact that we are here participating. And second that there isn't really any escaping these stories that play out in our lives, whether the end/ beginning results are painful or joyful. . .

Perhaps this is already clear to you and others but just to confirm: I think that your thoughts and experiences are not unusual and are not as bizarre or peculiar as it may seem. Carl Jung wrote a large manuscript "The Red Book" but he did not publish it. It was published many year after he died in 2009. Jung wrote that people might think him mad if they read it. Jung and others believe that a dive into the depths of the human psyche can be frightening and be very difficult even if drugs are not used. With the use of drugs the process is much more delicate. The pursuit of knowledge and understanding is dangerous. Advances in science have enabled pollution and destruction on a grander scale. Similarly, investigating the nature of human existence, the psyche and our place in the universe can be destabilizing. The modern approach of focusing on measurable things and not thinking too deeply on what we are saying protects from instability but leaves deeper questions and issues unanswered. Fantastic imagery and thoughts are not unusual if we think independently.

The bottom line is that your vision/imagination makes sense. There are very likely points of intelligence beyond and above our individual centers of consciousness; and we can think of them as gods or God and we are a part of collective stories. The direct sense and experience of this can result in peculiar ways of thinking relative to the norm. Many geniuses have very peculiar tendencies. When you step into thinking directly about many things you are drawing from the well of genius.

May 12: Meaning of the Planets (Week 2)

May 19: Vibrational Charts (Week 3)

May 26: Meanings of Vibrations (Week 4)

June, 2022 Week
starting:

June 2: Midpoint Structures, Isotraps, and Arabic Parts (Week 5)

(no class June 9)

June 16: Planetary Configurations (Week 6)

June 23: Vibrational Astrology is an Evidence-Based Practice
(Week 7)

June 30: Review. Submit Questions and Topics to Review
Before Class. (Week 8)

Last class of course, no homework.

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